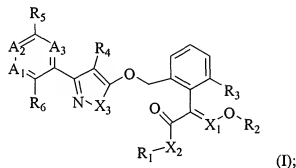


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (New) A substituted azole compound of formula (I):



wherein

X₁ is CH;

X₂ is selected from O or S;

X₃ is NR₈;

A₁ is CR₉;

A₂ is CR₁₀;

A₃ is CR₁₁;

R₁ and R₂ may be the same or different, selected from H, C₁-C₁₂alkyl or C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl;

R₃ is selected from H, halo, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl or C₁-C₁₂alkoxy;

R₈ is selected from H, C₁-C₁₂alkyl; C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl; C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonyl or C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonyl C₁-C₁₂alkyl;

R₄, R₅, R₆, R₉, R₁₀ and R₁₁ may be the same or different, selected from H, halo, NO₂, CN, CONH₂, CH₂CONH₂, CH₂CN, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxy, C₁-C₁₂haloalkoxy, C₁-C₁₂alkylthio, C₁-C₁₂alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₁₂alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxyC₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂haloalkoxyC₁-C₁₂alkyl, groups may be substituted by any other groups: aminoC₁-C₁₂alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl; aroxy, arylC₁-C₁₂alkyl, arylC₁-C₁₂alkoxy, heteroarylC₁-C₁₂alkyl or heteroarylC₁-C₁₂alkoxy;

and stereoisomer.

11. (New) The substituted azole compound according to the claim 10, wherein

R₁ and R₂ may be the same or different, selected from H, C₁-C₆alkyl or C₁-C₆haloalkyl;

R₃ is selected from H, halo, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl or C₁-C₆alkoxy;

R₈ is selected from H, C₁-C₆alkyl; C₁-C₆haloalkyl; C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl or C₁-

C₆alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₆alkyl; and

R₄, R₅, R₆, R₉, R₁₀ and R₁₁ may be the same or different, selected from H, halo, NO₂, CN, CONH₂, CH₂CONH₂, CH₂CN, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylthio, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxyC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkoxyC₁-C₆alkyl, groups may be substituted by any other groups: aminoC₁-C₆alkyl,aryl, heteroaryl; aroxy, arylC₁-C₆alkyl, arylC₁-C₆alkoxy, heteroarylC₁-C₆alkyl or heteroarylC₁-C₆alkoxy.

12. (New) The substituted azole compound according to the claim 11, wherein

X₂ is O;

R₁ and R₂ are CH₃;

R₃ is selected from H or CH₃;

R₈ is selected from H, C₁-C₆alkyl; C₁-C₆haloalkyl; C₁-C₃alkoxycarbonyl or C₁-

C₆alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₃alkyl; and

R₄, R₅, R₆, R₉, R₁₀ and R₁₁ may be the same or different, selected from H, halo, NO₂, CN, CONH₂, CH₂CONH₂, CH₂CN, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylthio, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxyC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkoxyC₁-C₆alkyl, groups may be substituted by any other groups: aminoC₁-C₃alkyl,phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl or benzyloxy.

13. (New) The substituted azole compound according to the claim 12, wherein

R₃ is H;

R₈ is selected from H, C₁-C₃alkyl; C₁-C₃haloalkyl; C₁-C₃alkoxycarbonyl or C₁-

C₃alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₃alkyl; and

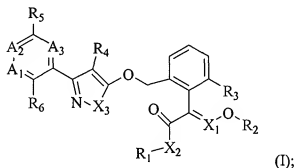
R₄, R₅, R₆, R₉, R₁₀ and R₁₁ may be the same or different, selected from H, Cl, Br, F, NO₂, CN, CH₂CN, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylthio, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxyC₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃haloalkoxyC₁-C₃alkyl, substituted aminoC₁-C₃alkyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl, phenoxy or substituted phenoxy.

14. (New) The substituted azole compound according to the claim 13, wherein

R₈ is selected from H, or C₁-C₃alkyl; and

R₄, R₅, R₆, R₉, R₁₀ and R₁₁ may be the same or different, selected from H, Cl, Br, F, NO₂, CN, C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆haloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, C₁-C₆haloalkoxy, C₁-C₆alkylthio, C₁-C₆alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₆alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxyC₁-C₃alkyl, phenyl or halo phenyl, phenoxy or halo phenoxy.

15. (New) A composition having as an active ingredient, a substituted azole compound of formula (I)



wherein

X₁ is CH;

X₂ is selected from O or S;

X₃ is NR₈;

A₁ is CR₉;

A₂ is CR₁₀;

A₃ is CR₁₁;

R₁ and R₂ may be the same or different, selected from H, C₁-C₁₂alkyl or C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl;

R₃ is selected from H, halo, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl or C₁-C₁₂alkoxy;

R₈ is selected from H, C₁-C₁₂alkyl; C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl; C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonyl or C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonyl C₁-C₁₂alkyl;

R₄, R₅, R₆, R₉, R₁₀ and R₁₁ may be the same or different, selected from H, halo, NO₂, CN, CONH₂, CH₂CONH₂, CH₂CN, C₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂haloalkyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxy, C₁-C₁₂haloalkoxy, C₁-C₁₂alkylthio, C₁-C₁₂alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₁₂alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxyC₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₁₂alkoxycarbonylC₁-C₁₂alkyl, C₁-C₁₂haloalkoxyC₁-C₁₂alkyl, groups may be substituted by any other groups: aminoC₁-C₁₂alkyl,aryl, heteroaryl; aroxy, arylC₁-C₁₂alkyl, arylC₁-C₁₂alkoxy, heteroarylC₁-C₁₂alkyl or heteroarylC₁-C₁₂alkoxy;

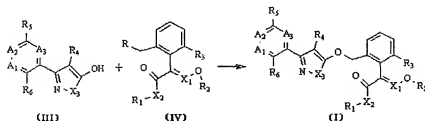
and stereoisomer;

wherein the weight percentage of the active ingredient in the composition is from 0.1% to 99%.

16. (New) A method for controlling fungi and insects in a plant which comprises administering the substituted azole compound of claim 10 to the plant.

17. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein the substituted azole compound is administered in the form of a composition.

18. (Withdrawn, New) The preparation of substitute azole compounds according to claim 10, which comprises reacting an azole compound containing hydroxyl group having general formula (III) with a halomethylbenzene having general formula (IV) in the presence of a base:



wherein: R is leaving group, such as Cl or Br.